

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION

REF: USNATO 2618

1. BY SEPTTEL YOU WILL HAVE RECEIVED US COMMENTS REGARDING THE DEFINITION OF RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION. FYI. WE ARE POUCHING TO YOU THE DETAILS OF THE FUNCTIONAL AREAS WE HAVE EXPLORED THUS FAR FOR YOUR USE IN THE EWG DISCUSSIONS. WE ARE COMPLETING REVIEW OF THESE DETAILS AND ARE WORKING TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A VERSION TO PRESENT TO THE EWG BEFORE THE JUNE MINISTERIAL AS A NONCOMMITAL US VIEW OF THE RATIONALIZATION POSSIBILITIES. END FYI. ALTHOUGH WE
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UNDERSTAND THE DESIRES OF SOME OF ALLIES TO PICK IMMEDI-

ATELY ONE FUNCTIONAL AREA FOR DETAILED EXPLORATION, WE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID A PREMATURE NARROW FOCUSING AS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE US PROPOSALS IS NOT IN THE INDIVIDUAL AREAS THEMSELVES BUT IN THE MATRIX CONCEPT WHICH TIES TOGETHER A VARIETY OF EFFICIENCIES AND IMPROVEMENTS.

2. WE WISH TO AVOID A REPETITION OF THE RATIONALIZATION DISCUSSIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE MC WHERE NATIONS COULD NOT AGREE ON FUNCTIONAL AREAS TO DISCUSS. THE NET RESULT WAS THAT NATIONS OBJECTED TO VARIOUS FUNCTIONAL AREAS WITHOUT AFFORDING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION OF THE POSSIBILITIES THEREIN OR PROVIDING INDICATIONS OF WHAT THE OBJECTIONS MIGHT BE. TO MAKE THE CONCEPT A NATO EFFORT YOU SHOULD BEGIN BY HAVING THE EWG LIST IN A FORMAT

SIMILAR TO THE US ILLUSTRATIVE MATRIX ALL THE FUNCTIONAL AREAS PROPOSED THUS FAR. THE EWG CAN THEN BEGIN DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF WHAT IS INVOLVED IN EACH OF THE PROPOSED AREAS AND INSERT WHAT WOULD BE THE POTENTIAL INCREASE OR DECREASE IN EXPENDITURES FOR EACH OF THE NATIONS INVOLVED IN IMPLEMENTING ANY PARTICULAR FUNCTIONAL PROPOSAL. FYI. FOR DISCUSSION OF US SUGGESTED FUNCTIONAL AREAS YOU MAY SELECTIVELY DRAW FROM THE DETAILED BACKUP PROVIDED YOU BY THE US RATIONALIZATION BRIEFERS IN MARCH. HOWEVER, THE DETAILS CONTAINED IN THE BACKUP PAPERS INCLUDING THOSE BEING POUCHED ARE NOT RELEASABLE TO NATO. END FYI. THIS ATTEMPT TO FORM A MATRIX SHOULD PRODUCE CLARIFICATION OF THE MEANING OF THE VARIOUS FUNCTIONAL AREAS AND ALLOW NATIONS TO COMMENT NOT ONLY UPON THE CONCEPTS, AS WE DESIRE, BUT ALSO TO INDICATE THEIR VIEWS OF THE DIRECTION (PLUS OR MINUS) OF CHANGE. WE SUGGEST POSTPONING EXAMINATION OF THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF THE VARIOUS TRADEOFFS IN ORDER TO INITIALLY CONCENTRATE UPON COST EFFICIENCY. PROCEDURALLY, THE NEXT STEP AFTER FORMATION OF A MATRIX WOULD BE CONCENTRATED STUDY OF THE MORE APPARENT INEFFICIENCIES WHICH IF RESOLVED WOULD PROVIDE SAVINGS TO THE GREATEST NUMBER OF NATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT IF THIS STUDY IS DONE IN A TENTATIVE MANNER, WITHOUT COMMITMENT DURING THESE DISCUSSIONS, PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE. WE BELIEVE THE MOST LIKELY CANDIDATES TO

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BENEFIT THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NATIONS WOULD BE IN FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES OF: HOST NATION SUPPORT, CONSOLIDATED TRAINING AND CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS. FYI. WE EXPECT SECDEF INTERVENTION AT THE MINISTERIALS TO ASK THAT THESE THREE FUNCTIONAL AREAS BE EXPLORED IN DETAIL FOR QUICK RESOLUTION AGAINST THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE MATRIX APPROACH. END FYI.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE EURO-NATO TRAINING CONFERENCE, THE US REPRESENTATIVE HAS BEEN BRIEFED REGARDING US EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THIS SUBJECT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF RATIONALIZATION. NO DECISIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE MADE AT THE CONFERENCE, AND YOU WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A COPY OF THE CONFERENCE REPORT.

4. US INABILITY TO RATIFY THE PROVISIONS OF THE STANAG ON TRAINING AS DISCUSSED REFTEL SHOULD NOT PRECLUDE OTHER NATIONS FROM PARTICIPATING IN COMMON TRAINING EFFORTS. AS YOU KNOW, A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF FOREIGN TRAINING IS ALREADY CONDUCTED IN THE US UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE FMS LAW WITH WHICH THE PROPOSED STANAG IS IN CONFLICT. WHILE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO SEEK A CHANGE TO THIS LAW, THE CHANCES OF SUCCESS ARE JUDGED SLIGHT AS THE COSTING PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN RECENTLY REITERATED. MOREOVER,

THERE APPEARS TO BE VERY LITTLE TO BE GAINED BY THIS CHANGE AS THE US RESERVATION DOES NOT PRECLUDE COMMON TRAINING. ANY DIFFERENCES IN FUNDING PROCEDURES CAN BE RESOLVED BY THE EUROPEAN NATIONS USING US CRITERIA WHEN CHARGING THE US FOR TRAINING.

5. WE CANNOT AGREE ENTIRELY WITH THE COMMENT MADE BY THE FRG REPRESENTATIVE REGARDING THE LIMITS TO BE PLACED UPON THE ROLE OF THE EWG. WHILE IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO RELY UPON THOSE BODIES NOW IN EXISTENCE FOR TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, THE FUNCTION OF THE EWG IN THIS PRESENT EFFORT AT RATIONALIZATION IS TO SEEK TO RESOLVE AT HIGHER LEVELS AND WITH POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT THOSE TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE ISSUES WHICH ARE DESERVING OF RATIONALIZATION BUT WHICH HAVE GONE UNRESOLVED OVER THE YEARS FOR LACK OF HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION. ADDITIONALLY, BY PROPOSING THE CONCEPTS

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IN A MATRIX FORMAT, THOSE CHANGES, WHICH IN THEMSELVES MIGHT BE UNATTRACTIVE, BECOME MORE ATTRACTIVE AND FEASIBLE WHEN BALANCED BY GAINS THAT WOULD GO WITH THEM.

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